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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/709,513	05/11/2004	Klaus Frohlich	A91988	3512
30008 7590 02/21/2007 GUDRUN E. HUCKETT DRAUDT LONSSTR. 59 WUPPERTAL, 42289 GERMANY			EXAMINER KENNEDY, JOSHUA T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3679	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			02/21/2007	PAPER

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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10/709, 513

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20070213

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

DPS The reply brief filed February 13, 2007 has been entered and considered. The application ^{has} been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Daniel P. Stodola

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

JTK
JTK
2/13/2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

First named inventor: Klaus Fröhlich
Serial No: 10/709,513
Filing Date: 5/11/2004
Title: Device for Connecting Ends of Bars
Examiner: Joshua T. Kennedy
Art Unit: 3679

Reply Brief
Noted
2/16/07
DPS

REPLY BRIEF

Appellant herewith submits a Reply Brief pursuant to 37 CFR 41.41 in response to Examiner's Answer dated 12/13/2006.

Examiner's Answer - page 4, line 13, to page 5, line 8, and page 8, line 3, to page 9, line 7.

Examiner's Opinion

In regard to *Michelson*, the examiner refers to col. 26, lines 66-67; col. 27, lines 1-10 and Figs. 96A to 96C and recites a sentence of col. 27, lines 6-10, as follows (leaving out the most important statement):

"Such a crossed configuration ... provides an extremely stable engagement ... as they are very close together and diagonally crossed "

What the examiner has eliminated from this sentence is the last part; the complete sentence reads as follows (emphasis added):

"Such a crossed configuration of bone screws 30 provides an extremely stable engagement of plate 960 to the bone as they are very close together and diagonally crossed within the same bone thus trapping an area of bone between them."

The examiner argues that the reference *Michelson* demonstrates that doubling the screws in arranging them in a staggered row is an obvious measure to a person skilled in the art for a secure engagement of a cylindrical object per se and that duplicating the parts